

Message Text

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63

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 OMB-01 SY-10 OPR-02 AID-20

NIC-01 PM-07 H-03 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 RSR-01 /142 W

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R 302057Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5355

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: CI PINT PINS ELAB MILI

SUBJ: TRANSPORT STRIKE NEGOTIATIONS RESUMED

REF: SANTIAGO 3877

1. SUMMARY. MERCHANTS STRIKES CONTINUE AS GOVT/TRANSPORT TALKS BROKE DOWN. GOVT. THREATENED STRIKERS WITH STERN MEASURES, AND MEETINGS RESUMED TODAY. INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE CONTINUE IN SANTIAGO AND ELSEWHERE. REACTING TO NEW CABINET, OPPOSITION PARTIES CALLED ON MILITARY TO FORCE "RECTIFICATION" OF GOVT. POLICIES WHILE MIR SPECULATED THAT GOVT. IS ABOUT TO "CAPITULATE" TO OPPOSITION DEMANDS. VIAUX GOING TO PARAGUAY. END SUMMARY

2. MERCHANTS AND OTHER GUILDS EXTENDED STRIKE FOR 24 MORE HOURS THROUGH AUG 30. RETAIL SHOPKEEPERS LEADER RAFAEL CUMSILLE, HOWEVER, ANNOUNCED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED SOME "POSITIVE" RESPONSES FROM GOVT. CONCERNING VARIOUS DEMANDS, ADDING THAT END TO MERCHANTS STRIKE COULD BE IN SIGHT. MINECONOMY CADEMARTORI
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MEANWHILE ISSUED STATEMENT DENOUNCING MERCHANTS STRIKE AS

POLITICALLY MOTIVATED AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOLPISTA DESIRES OF SOME OPPOSITION SECTORS. SHUTDOWNS IN PROVINCES, ESPECIALLY SOUTHERN TIER AND VALPARAISO, APPARENTLY ALMOST TOTALLY EFFECTIVE AND INCLUDE MOST PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS. SIX UP DEPUTIES WHO ARE ALSO PHYSICIANS ISSUED PUBLIC DEMAND THAT NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSN.'S LEGAL REGISTRATION (PERSONALIDAD JURIDICA) BE CANCELLED.

3. GOVT./TRANSPORTATION CONFEDERATION TALKS BROKE DOWN AUG 30, AND MINPUBLIC WORKS GEN. MAGLIOCCHETTI ANNOUNCED THAT INTER-MINISTERIAL "OPERATIONS COMMAND" IS NOW RESPONSIBLE FOR DEALING WITH STRIKERS. MININTERIOR BRIONES PUT OUT STATEMENT, HIGHLY PUBLICIZED IN UP MEDIA, THREATENING STRIKERS WITH SEVERE PENALTIES INCLUDING CANCELLATION OF LEGAL REGISTRATION OF TRUCK OWNERS GUILD, ASSIGNMENT OF VEHICLES TO PERSONS WILLING TO WORK, POLICE PROTECTION FOR NON-STRIKERS, AND DIRECT GOVT. NEGOTIATIONS WITH LOCAL TRUCKERS ORGANIZATIONS, THEREBY BYPASSING VILARIN'S NATIONAL ORGANIZATION. GOVT. LA NACION AND OTHER UP PRESS REPORTED LAND TRANSPORT CONFEDERATION (RODADO) IS WRACKED BY INTERNAL DISSENTION AND TAXIBUS OWNERS PLAN TO RETURN TO WORK. MIDDAY NEWS STORIES TODAY REPORT NEW SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BEING DRAFTED BY RODADO FOLLOWING RANUED TALKS WITH GOC AUTHORITIES THIS MORNING.

4. TERRORIST INCIDENTS AND OTHER VIOLENCE CONTINUE TO RECEIVE CONSIDERABLE PUBLIC ATTENTION. DEATH OF ARMY LT. AUG 29 (REFTEL) PROMINENTLY FEATURED IN OPPOSITION PRESS, WHICH STRESSED INVOLVEMENT OF MEXICAN RESIDENT "TOURIST" AND FACT THAT KILLING TOOK PLACE IN TRUCK BELONGING TO A GOVT.-CONTROLLED INDUSTRY. ARMY ISSUED STATEMENT DETAILING EVENTS SURROUNDING SHOOTING (THE LT. APPARENTLY DREW FIRST, AFTER A DISCUSSION OF POLITICS); MIN DEFENSE LETELIER DESCRIBED AFFAIR AS A "POLICE INCIDENT." TWO DYNAMITE BOMBS EXPLODED AT HOME OF SERGIO POLITOFF, MININTERIOR LEGAL ADVISOR, AND FOUR OTHER BOMBING INCIDENTS REPORTEDLY TOOK PLACE ELSEWHERE IN SANTIAGO LAST NIGHT. MARCH BY UP WOMEN IN RANCAGUA AUG 29 WAS FOLLOWED BY GENERALIZED STREET FIGHTING IN WHICH BUILDING HOUSING OPPOSITION NEWSPAPER EL RANCAGUINO WAS DAMAGED. VIOLENCE AND TERRORISM ALSO REPORTED IN OSORNO, VALPARAISO AND ARICA.

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5. PDC STATEMENT CALLED ON NEW CABINET TO "RECTIFY" GOVT. POLICY BY HALTING ILLEGAL ACTS OF TYPE LISTED IN AUG 22 CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES RESOLUTION. PN STATEMENT COMMENTED THAT IT SAW NO EVIDENCE OF SUCH GOVT. "RECTIFICATION" IN SPITE OF MILITARY PRESENCE. LEADERS OF FTR, MIR'S LABOR SUBSIDIARY, OPINED THAT MILITARY PRESENCE IN CABINET SHOWS THAT GOVT. IS ON VERGE OF "CAPITULATING" TO OPPOSITION DEMANDS. PS ISSUED DECLARATION THAT MININTERIOR CARLOS BRIONES IS NOT A PS MEMBER AND WOULD BE

PUBLICLY DENOUNCED BY PARTY IF HIS ACTIONS IN ANY WAY IMPEDED ATTAINMENT OF UP GOALS. RADICAL PARTY, ALSO A UP MEMBER, TOOK SHARP PUBLIC ISSUE WITH PS STATEMENT AS "INOPPORTUNE AND INCONVENIENT," NOTING THT THE TIMES REQUIRE TOTAL UNITY WITHIN UP.

6. IN OTHER POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS, VARIOUS GUILDS CONTINUE TO PURSUE THEIR CAMPAIGN TO DEMAND ALLENDE'S RESIGNATION. LATEST ADHERENT IS CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY STUDENT FEDERATION (FEUC). OPPOSITION WOMEN IN RANCAGUA OPENED STREET BOTHS TO COLLECT SIGNATURES ON RESIGNATION PETITION. LEFT-LEANING PDC DEPUTY BERNARDO LEIGHTON ANNOUNCED HE GENERALLY AGREED WITH TOMIC LETTER PRAISING PRATS (REFTEL; PDC LEADERSHIP ISSUED STATEMENT THAT TOMIC LETTER DOES NOT RESPRESENT PDC THINKING. CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES DEFEATED PROPOSED PN RESOLUTION DECLARING CUBAN AMB. PERSONA NON GRATA; PDC VOTED WITH UP AGAINST RESOLUTION. SUPREME COURT ISSUED ANOTHER PUBLIC APPEAL TO ALLENDE TO HONOR COURT DECISIONS. CARABINEROS HEADQUARTERS ISSUED STATEMENT DENYING CLAIMS IN SOME OPPOSITION MEDIA THAT CORPS IS BEING SUBJECTED TO POLITICAL INFILTRATION BY UP. AFTER APPARENTLY RECHECKING THEIR CALENDARS, UP RESCHEDULED RALLY ON THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF ALLENDE ELECTION TO SEPT 4.

7. ON EMERGING FROM CALL AT FONMINISTRY THIS MORNING PARAGUAYAN AMB LUIS GONZALEZ MAYA TOLD PRESS THAT GEN. ROBERTO VIAUX WILL PROCEED TO PARAGUAY NEXT TUESDAY, TO START FIVE YEARS EXILE TO WHICH SENTENCED UPON COMPLETION OF JAIL TERM FOR HIS ROLE IN 1970 SCHNEIDER KIDNAPPING. AMB ALSO SAID GOC HAS GRANTED SAFECONDUCT FOR GASSET BROTHERS, WHO TOOK REFUGE IN EMBASSY IN AFTERMATH OF JUNE 29 INSURRECTION. DAVIS

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